

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 8, 9, 12, 15, and 20-23 as shown below.

This claim list replaces all prior claim lists in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method that utilizes a processor to provide answers to a question, comprising:
 - (a) receiving a question from a first user;
 - (b) providing the question on a given web page;
 - (c) receiving evaluation data for the question from a second user [[and]] or an operator of the web page, the evaluation data of the question being an indication of the quality of the question;
 - (d) calculating evaluation result data, using the processor, by reflecting the evaluation data; and
 - (e) providing the evaluation result data on the web page in association with the question.
2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step (e) comprises displaying the evaluation result data as a predetermined graph.
3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising displaying the question according to a predetermined display method if the evaluation result data is not coincident with a predetermined reference.
4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

step (c) comprises receiving one of "affirmation" and "negation" for the question from the second user or the operator, and step (d) comprises:

increasing given evaluation value data corresponding to the evaluation result data if the "affirmation" is received; and

reducing the evaluation value data if the "negation" is received.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step (d) comprises:
determining whether the received evaluation data is evaluation data that is received from the operator or a user to which predetermined authority has been assigned by the operator; and
calculating the evaluation result data by assigning a predetermined weight to the evaluation data that is received from the operator or the user to which predetermined authority has been assigned by the operator.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising
increasing point data associated with the second user by a predetermined value in response to the input of the evaluation data.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein increasing the point data by the predetermined value comprises:
receiving a limit number corresponding to a predetermined unit period from the operator;
counting an input number that the second user inputs the evaluation data during the unit period; and
if the input number is below the limit number, increasing the point data associated with the second user by the predetermined value in response to the input of the evaluation data.

8. (Currently Amended) A method that utilizes a processor to provide answers to a question, comprising:

- providing a question input by a first user on a given web page;
- receiving an answer for the question from a second user;
- providing the answer on the web page in association with the question;
- ~~if a plurality of answers are input, receiving votes~~ a vote ~~for the answers~~ an answer from a third user ~~[[for]]~~ during a predetermined voting period, the vote for the answer indicating that the third user affirms the voted on answer from among one or more provided answers; and
- increasing a polling score, using the processor, corresponding to the voted on answers ~~in response to the input of the votes.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising providing the polling score on the web page in association with the voted on answers.

10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the voting period is a predetermined period input by the first user and/or a period until the number of voters input by the first user is reached.

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the voting period is a predetermined period input by an operator and/or a period until a given number of voters input by the operator is reached.

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein receiving the answer comprises receiving answers to the question from the second user for a predetermined answer period, and

receiving the votes vote comprises receiving the votes vote for the answers answer from the third user [[if]] after the answer period has elapsed.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the answer period is a predetermined period input by the first user.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising adopting one or more answers based on the polling score if the voting period has elapsed.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein [[if]] in response to the polling score corresponding to the voted answers [[is]] being less than predetermined polling score after the voting period has elapsed, not adopting an answer and displaying that there is no adopted answer.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising displaying the adopted answer according to a predetermined display method.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, further comprising:
deciding the second user who input the adopted answer as an answer adopter; and
increasing point data associated with the answer adopter by a predetermined value.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein increasing the point data associated with the answer adopter by the predetermined value comprises:

maintaining point data associated with a user in a point database;
receiving compensation point data from the first user;

increasing the point data associated with the answer adopter by the compensation point data based on the compensation point data; and

reducing the point data associated with the first user by the compensation point data.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein increasing the point data associated with the answer adopter by the compensation point data based on the compensation point data comprises:

if plural answers are adopted, distributing the compensation point data input by the first user in the ratio of the polling score corresponding to each of the adopted answers; and

increasing the point data associated with each answer adopter by the distributed compensation point data.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising increasing the point data associated with the third user by a predetermined value in response to ~~the input of the votes~~ receipt of the third user's vote.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein increasing point data by a predetermined value comprises:

receiving a limit number corresponding to a predetermined unit period from an operator;

counting an input the number of times that the third user inputs votes for a vote during the unit period; and

if the input number is below the limit number, increasing the point data associated with the third user by the predetermined value in response to the input of the votes vote.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein receiving the votes comprises:

receiving a vote return command for the answers from the first user; and
receiving votes the vote for the ~~answers~~ answer from the third user after the vote return command is input.

23. (Currently Amended) A method that utilizes a processor to provide answers to a question, comprising:

providing a question input by a first user on a given web page;
receiving ~~answers~~ an answer to the question from a second user for a ~~predetermined~~ an answer period;
providing the ~~answers~~ answer on the web page in association with the question;
~~if the period has elapsed,~~ receiving input for adopting the answer and evaluation data for the adopted answer from the first user, the input and the evaluation data being received after the answer period has elapsed; and
increasing point data, using the processor, associated with the second user who input the adopted answer based on the evaluation data.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein receiving the evaluation data comprises receiving one of the given number of evaluation grades for the adopted answer from the first user, and

increasing the point data comprises:
maintaining a point data value corresponding to the evaluation grade; and
increasing the point data associated with the second user by the point data value corresponding to the evaluation grade.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14 or 23, further comprising:
receiving a problem raised for the adopted answer by a fourth user;
providing the raised problem to the second user who input the adopted answer;
receiving an additional answer for the raised problem from the second user who input
the adopted answer; and
providing the additional answer on the web page in association with the adopted answer.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein receiving the
additional answer comprises:
counting the number of additional answers input; and
allowing the additional answers not to be input if the number exceeds a given number.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14 or 23, further comprising:
receiving a problem raised for the adopted answer by a fourth user;
providing the raised problem to the second user who input the adopted answer;
if the second user who input the adopted answer does not agree with the raised
problem, receiving a cause of a rejection for the raised problem from the second user; and
providing the cause of the rejection to the fourth user.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 27, further comprising
providing the raised problem in association with the adopted answer.

29. (Previously Presented) A method that utilizes a processor to provide answers to a
question, comprising:

(a) providing a question input by a first user on a given web page;

(b) receiving answers for the question from a second user for a predetermined period;
(c) providing the answers on a web page in association with the question;
(d) deciding, using the processor, the question and an answer associated with the question as knowledge data;
(e) receiving a recommendation for the knowledge data from a third user; and
(f) providing the recommendation on the web page in association with the knowledge data.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising displaying the recommended knowledge data according to a predetermined display method.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, wherein:
step (e) comprises-receiving a category associated with the knowledge data from the third user, and
step (f) comprises displaying the category in association with the knowledge data.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29, further comprising:
maintaining the knowledge data and recommendation information associated with the knowledge data in a knowledge database;
receiving a search request for the knowledge data from a fourth user;
searching the knowledge database for the knowledge data in response to the search request;
determining an arranging order of the searched knowledge data; and
displaying the searched knowledge data according to the arranging order,

the step of determining the arranging order of the searched knowledge data comprises the steps of:

determining whether the searched knowledge data are recommended knowledge data based on the recommendation information; and

determining the arranging order by assigning a predetermined weight to the recommended knowledge data.

33. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium in which a program for implementing a method according to claim 1 is recorded.

34. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the first user, the second user, and the third user are all different users.